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Gregory G. Jones

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EXAMINER

KARIMI, PEGEMAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/24/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/823,600	Applicant(s) JONES ET AL.	
	Examiner PEGEMAN KARIMI	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-10,13,15-17,21-23,25,26 and 28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5-10, 13, 15-17, 21-23, 25, 26, 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 07/28/2008 has been entered and considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 16, 17, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batra (U.S. Patent 6,317,061), in view of Salmon (Pub. No. 2003/0048256), and further in view of Lin (U.S. Patent 6,056,458) and Chiang (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,215).

As to claim 1, Batra (Fig. 6) discloses a computer keyboard system comprising:
a base (14) having a number pad (204) and
a removable section (12) having an alphanumeric key cluster (147) and a
wireless transmitter (Fig. 4B, 370);

the removable section (12) being removably coupleable in a snap-fit fashion to
connector located (Fig. 2, the keyboard is in a snap-fit configuration at connectors 32
and 34) on the base (14), (col. 1, lines 62-63) wherein the removable section (12)
transmits a signal (Fig. 4B, 52) to a host computer (100) via the base.

The removable section is configurable in an abutment relationship (the base 14 and keyboard 12 are in an abutment relationship, fig. 2) with the base for a user selectable separation process (the user has the option to separate the keyboard from the base), and

wherein upon physical release of the removable section (removing keyboard 12 from base 14), the host computer (100) and the physically released removable section (12) remain operably connected to each other via the base (as can be seen in Fig. 4B of Batra the host computer and the removed keyboard section are in communication 52 and 106 through the base 14) which includes a wireless receiver (375) to receive the signal (52) from the wireless transmitter of the removable section (370).

Batra does not teach a biometric reader and the selectable separation process corresponds to the biometric characteristic of the user and also the removable section being removably couplable in a snap-fit fashion to an electro-mechanical connector. Salmon (Fig. 1) teaches a biometric reader (13) for reading a biometric characteristic of a user (paragraph 68).

and a user selectable separation process (pulling the keyboard from the base, fig. 1) corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user (fingerprint of the user, [0068], lines 16-23); and

wherein the biometric reader (13) is configured to send a signal (detecting the fingerprint and communicating with the motherboard) so as to physically release the removable section (3) from the electro-mechanical connector (2) responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user ([0089], lines 11-19), (when the biometric reader

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recognizes the user's finger print, the command solenoid 34 retracts its pin to position 36 so the keyboard can be extended, this pin is an electro-mechanical connector, ([0068]) ; and

Salmon also teaches an electro-mechanical connector (32, Figs. 3B and 3C). It can be concluded that by adding the electro-mechanical connector of Salmon to the removable section of Batra the keyboard can be snap-fitted into the base. A person skilled in the art can release the removable section from the base by activating the biometric reader and retracting the electro-mechanical connector's pin.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the biometric reader of Salmon to the keyboard of Batra because the biometric reader of Salmon would prevent other users to operate the device without permission (i.e. authority) thereby eliminating the security problem caused by other users (see paragraph 68 of Salmon).

Batra and Salmon do not teach a removable section includes a scrolling device. Lin teaches a keyboard (1) wherein the removable section (11, Fig. 2) includes a scrolling device (24)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the scrolling device of Lin to the computer keyboard system of Batra as modified by Salmon because by operating the scrolling device on the keyboard and incorporating with the program of the control unit, it can perform the operations of page up, page down in addition to a traditional keyboard operations (col. 2, lines 1-6)

Batra, Salmon, and Lin ('6458) do not mention the transverse grooves are in substantially perpendicular to the connector. Chiang teaches the selectable separation process (separating the keyboard 40 from the base 41) is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels (fig. 2, the transverse channels are 46 and 44) located on the base (the transverse grooves are located on the base, 41) in substantially perpendicular to the connector (when the keyboard 40 is inserted into the base 41, the transverse grooves or channels are perpendicular to the keyboard) for sidably guiding the removable section away from the electro-mechanical connector (In order for keyboard 40 to come out of the base, the user must slide the grooves out of the channels), (it is possible also to add the electro-mechanical connectors 32 in Figs. 3B and 3C of Salmon to the grooves and channels of Chiang wherein the groove is the sturdy wire 33 and the channel is the hook 35 and pin 36). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the grooves and channels in a perpendicular position to the keyboard of Chiang to the computer keyboard system of Batra as modified by Salmon and Lin ('6458) because to lock the device in place (col. 4, lines 66-67).

As to claim 16, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the limitation(s) “a keyboard processor configured to cooperate with a transmitter” and “a fingerprint reader mounted to the keyboard housing” is additionally recited.

Batra (Fig. 4B) discloses a computer keyboard (12) configured for wireless communication (106) with a computer (100), comprising:

a keyboard housing (14);

a keyboard processor (col. 2, line 2) configured to cooperate with a transmitter (350) for wireless communication (106) to a computer (col. 2, line 8-10); and

a removable alphanumeric section (12) removably coupled in a snap-fit fashion to a connector located on the keyboard housing (section 12 is in a snap-fit position by grooves and channels 32, 34 and 33, 35, see fig. 3 of Batra), wherein the removable alphanumeric section having a processor (col. 2, lines 1-2) and

a transmitter (370) for wireless communication (106) to the computer; the alphanumeric section (12) including a group of alphanumeric keys (Fig. 6, 147) being operatively connected to the processor (col. 5, line 53-60).

Batra does not teach a fingerprint reader. Salmon (Fig. 1) teaches a fingerprint reader (13) mounted to the keyboard housing (2) (paragraph 63). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the biometric reader of Salmon to the keyboard of Batra because the biometric reader of salmon would prevent other users to operate the device without permission (i.e. authority) thereby eliminating the security problem caused by other users (see paragraph 68 of Salmon).

Batra and Salmon do not teach a removable section includes a scrolling device. Lin teaches a keyboard (1) wherein the removable section (11, Fig. 2) includes a scrolling device (24).

As to claim 6, Salmon teaches (Fig. 1) a biometric reader (13) comprising a fingerprint reader configured to send a signal so as to release the removable section (extend the keyboard) from the base (enclosure, 2) responsive to a fingerprint identification of the user (paragraph 68)

As to claims 2 and 17, Batra teaches a computer keyboard (10) system wherein the removable section (12) includes a cursor control device (44).

As to claim 7, Batra (Fig. 6) teaches a computer keyboard system, in which the base (14) includes a receiving portion (130) adapted to substantially enclose the removable section (12) therein (col.6, lines 61-63).

As to claim 21, this claim differs from claim 7 in that the limitation “keyboard housing” is additionally recited. Batra teaches a keyboard housing (14) and a removable alphanumeric section (12).

As to claim 8, Batra (Fig. 2) teaches a computer keyboard (10) system, wherein the removable section (12) removable coupling comprises a media interface (Media interface detail of removable keyboard 12 is shown better in Fig. 6, element 98).

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batra, in view of Salmon and further in view of Lin, and Chiang (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,215) as applied to claim 1, and further in view Cheng (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0174123).

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As to claim 5, note the discussion of Batra, Salmon, and Lin above. Batra, Salmon, and Lin do not teach a wireless mouse. Cheng (Fig. 4) teaches a computer keyboard (2) system including a wireless mouse (1) configured to wirelessly communicate (paragraph 14) with the wireless receiver (23) of the base (2). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the wireless mouse of Cheng to the keyboard of Batra as modified by Salmon, Lin, and Chiang because wire and wireless mouse can be substituted each other; the wireless mouse would provide the benefit of carrying from one place to another place easily.

5. Claims 9, 10, 13, 15, 22, 23, 26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batra in view of Salmon, and further in view of Lin ('145), Lin (U.S. Patent 6,056,458), and Chiang.

As to claim 9, Batra discloses a computer keyboard system comprising:

a first keyboard housing (14);

a number pad (204) with a key cluster (i.e. 210, 206, 208) and

a second keyboard housing (12) having an alphanumeric section (147); wherein said second keyboard housing is nestable (col. 6, lines 61-62) within a receiving portion (130) of the first keyboard housing and removably coupleable to a connector located (the base and the keyboard are connected through locations 32, 34, and 33, 35, see fig. 3 of Batra), (col. 7, line 28-30) on the first keyboard housing (14) such that when said

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first keyboard housing and second keyboard housing are coupled together (col. 6, lines 61-62),

Batra teaches the first keyboard housing (14) includes a processor (col. 2, line 2) operable to electrically charge to a mobile power source in the second keyboard housing (battery, col. 4, line 44-45), and

The removable section is configurable in an abutment relationship with the base (the base 14 and keyboard 12 are in an abutment relationship, fig. 2) for a user selectable separation process (the user has the option to separate the keyboard from the base),

a second key-board housing (12)

wherein upon physical release of the second keyboard housing (12), the first keyboard housing (14) and the physically released second keyboard housing remain operably connected to each other (as can be seen in Fig. 4B of Batra the keyboard 12 and the keyboard housing 14 are connected to each other) via a wireless receiver (375) located on the first keyboard housing to receive a signal from a wireless transmitter located on the second keyboard housing (receiver 375 receives wireless signal 52 from keyboard 12 through transmitter 370); and

Batra does not teach a biometric reader and the selectable separation process corresponds to the biometric characteristic of the user and also an electro-mechanical connector.

Salmon (Fig. 1) teaches a biometric reader (13) for reading a biometric characteristic of a user, and a user selectable separation process (pulling the keyboard

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from the base, fig. 1) corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user (fingerprint of the user, [0068], lines 16-23) to trigger a stand-alone self-powered mode (activating from sleep mode to processing mode) to trigger an input to a processor link for user-based input ([0068], lines 16-23), and

Wherein the biometric reader (13) is configured to send an electrical signal (detecting the fingerprint and communicating with the motherboard) to facilitate physical release of the second keyboard housing (3) from the electro-mechanical connector (2) responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user ([0089], lines 11-19).

Salmon also teaches an electro-mechanical connector (32), ([0068]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the biometric reader of Salmon to the second keyboard housing of Batra because the biometric reader of salmon would prevent other users to operate the device without permission (i.e. authority) thereby eliminating the security problem caused by other users (see paragraph 68 of Salmon).

Batra and Salmon do not teach a processor included in the keyboard housing.

Lin ('145), (Fig. 2) teaches a first keyboard housing (1) including a processor therein (col. 1, line 12-13) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the built in processor of Lin to the keyboard of Batra as modified by Salmon because the arrangement of the processor in the keyboard of Lin would benefit of replacing all different kinds of connectors easily (see col. 2, lines 28-30 of Lin).

Batra, Salmon, and Lin ('145) do not teach a removable section includes a scrolling device. Lin ('458) teaches a keyboard (1) wherein the second keyboard housing (11, Fig. 2) includes a scrolling device (24) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the scrolling device of Lin to the computer keyboard system of Batra as modified by Salmon and Lin because by operating the scrolling device on the keyboard and incorporating with the program of the control unit, it can perform the operations of page up, page down in addition to a traditional keyboard operations (col. 2, lines 1-6).

Batra, Salmon, Lin ('145), and Lin ('458) do not mention the transverse grooves are in substantially perpendicular to the connector. Chiang teaches the selectable separation process (separating the keyboard 40 from the base 41) is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels (fig. 2, the transverse channels are 46 and 44) located on the first keyboard housing (the transverse grooves are located on the first keyboard housing, 41) in substantially perpendicular to the connector (when the keyboard 40 is inserted into the base 41, the transverse grooves or channels a are perpendicular to the keyboard) for sidably guiding the removable section away from the electro-mechanical connector (In order for keyboard 40 to come out of the base, the user must slide the grooves out of the channels), (it is possible also to add the electro-mechanical connectors 32 in Figs. 3B and 3C of Salmon to the grooves and channels of Chiang wherein the groove is the sturdy wire 33 and the channel is the hook 35 and pin 36). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the grooves and channels in a perpendicular

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position to the keyboard of Chiang to the computer keyboard system of Batra as modified by Salmon, Lin ('145) and Lin ('458) because to lock the device in place (col. 4, lines 66-67).

As to claim 22, Batra teaches a computer keyboard configured for communication with a computer (106), comprising:

- a keyboard housing (10);

- a removable keyboard portion (12) removably coupleable to a connector (connectors 32, 33, 34, and 35) located on the keyboard housing (located on the surface area of base 14, fig. 2), wherein the removable keyboard portion comprising:

- an alphanumeric section (40) including a group of alphanumeric keys (40) being operatively connectable to the keyboard processor (51);

- a transmitter (370) for wireless communication (Fig. 4B).

Wherein the removable keyboard portion is configurable in an abutment relationship with the keyboard housing (the base 14 and keyboard 12 are in an abutment relationship, fig. 2) for a user selectable separation process (the user has the option to separate the keyboard from the base).

wherein upon physical release of the removable keyboard portion (removing keyboard 12 from the base 14), the computer and the physically released removable keyboard portion remain operably connected to each other via the keyboard housing (as can be seen in Fig. 4B of Batra the removed keyboard is in touch with the host

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computer via the keyboard base 14) which includes a wireless receiver (375) to receive a signal (52) from the wireless transmitter (370) of the removable keyboard portion (12);

Batra does not teach a biometric reader and a selectable separation process corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user.

Salmon teaches a biometric reader (7) device configured for communicating with the keyboard processor ([0089], lines 11-19) based on a biometric characteristic of a user (fingerprint is a biometric characteristic, which is unique for each user) and a user selectable separation process (pulling the keyboard from the base, fig. 1) corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user (fingerprint of the user, [0068], lines 16-23) to trigger a stand-alone self-powered mode (activating from sleep mode to processing mode) to trigger an input to a processor link for user-based input ([0068], lines 16-23), and

Wherein the biometric reader (13) is configured to send an electrical signal (detecting the fingerprint and communicating with the motherboard) to facilitate mechanical release of the removable keyboard portion (3) from the connector (2) responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user ([0089], lines 11-19). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the biometric reader of Salmon to the removable keyboard portion of Batra because the biometric reader of salmon would prevent other users to operate the device without permission (i.e. authority) thereby eliminating the security problem caused by other users (see paragraph 68 of Salmon).

Batra and Salmon do not teach a processor within the keyboard. Lin ('145) teaches a keyboard processor (col. 1, line 12-11) with in the keyboard housing (Fig. 1, 1) for communicating with the computer (col. 1, line 15-16) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the built in processor of Lin to the keyboard of Batra as modified by Salmon because the arrangement of the processor in the keyboard of Lin would benefit of replacing all different kinds of connectors easily (see col. 2, lines 28-30 of Lin).

Batra, Salmon, and Lin ('145) do not teach a computer keyboard comprising a scrolling device. Lin ('458) teaches a keyboard (1) comprising a scrolling device (24). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the scrolling device of Lin to the computer keyboard system of Batra as modified by Salmon and Lin for the same reason as previously discussed with respect to claim 9.

Batra, Salmon, Lin ('145), and Lin ('458) do not mention the transverse grooves are in substantially perpendicular to the connector. Chiang teaches the selectable separation process (separating the keyboard 40 from the base 41) is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels (fig. 2, the transverse channels are 46 and 44) located in the keyboard housing (the transverse grooves are located in the keyboard housing, 41) in substantially perpendicular to the connector (when the keyboard 40 is inserted into the base 41, the transverse grooves or channels a are perpendicular to the keyboard) for slidably guiding the removable section away from the electro-mechanical connector (In order for keyboard 40 to come out of the base, the user must slide the

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grooves out of the channels), (it is possible also to add the electro-mechanical connectors 32 in Figs. 3B and 3C of Salmon to the grooves and channels of Chiang wherein the groove is the sturdy wire 33 and the channel is the hook 35 and pin 36).

As to claim 10, Batra teaches a computer keyboard (10) system wherein the second keyboard housing (12) includes a cursor control device (44).

As to claim 13, Batra teaches releasing the second keyboard (12) housing from the first keyboard (14), (col. 3, lines 52-53). Batra does not teach a biometric device. Salmon teaches (Fig. 1) a biometric device (13) comprises a fingerprint reader system configured to send a signal based on fingerprint identification of the user ([0068], lines 16-23).

As to claim 15, Batra (Fig. 2) teaches, a computer keyboard (10) system, wherein the second keyboard housing (12) removable coupling comprises media interface (Fig. 6, 98) configured to cooperate with the processor (col. 4, lines 59-61).

As to claim 23, Batra (Fig. 2) teaches a computer keyboard (10), wherein the removable keyboard portion (12) includes a cursor control device (44).

As to claim 26, Batra teaches the second keyboard housing (12) is removably coupleable to the connector in a snap-fit fashion (the keyboard is connected to the base through grooves and channels 32, 33, 34, and 35, see fig. 3 of Batra).

As to claim 28, Batra teaches the removable keyboard portion (12) is removably coupleable to the connector in a snap-fit fashion (the keyboard is connected to the base through grooves and channels 32, 33, 34, and 35, see fig. 3 of Batra).

6. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batra in view of Salmon, Lin ('145), Lin ('458), Chiang as applied to claim 22 above, and further in view of Cheng (Pub. No. 2003/0174123).

As to claim 25, note the discussion in claim 22, Batra, Salmon, Lin ('145) and Lin ('458) do not teach a wireless mouse. Cheng (Fig. 4) teaches a keyboard (2) including a wireless mouse (1) configured for wireless communication (Paragraph 114) with the computer (3) via the keyboard processor (23). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the wireless mouse of Cheng to the keyboard of Batra as modified by Salmon, Lin ('145), and Lin ('458) because wire and wireless mouse can be substituted each other; the wireless mouse would provide the benefit of carrying from one place to another place easily.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 07/28/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Salmon is completely silent on whether the finger print sensor 13 sends a signal to physically release the keyboard 3 from the roll up cylinder

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8, and in Salmon the keyboard is not released from any electro-mechanical connector located on the base as required by claims 1 and 16.

As can be seen in Figs. 3B and 3C and mentioned in paragraph [0068] of Salmon once a user is authorized by the biometric reader 13 the motherboard commands solenoid 34 to retract its pin to position 36 so that keyboard 3 can be retracted. Latch 32 is a electro-mechanical device, which holds or releases the sturdy wire 33. This latch can be used in the keyboard of Chiang and/or Batra to hold the keyboard in position and release the keyboard when a user scans his/her finger on the scanner.

Applicant argues that Chiang fails to teach or suggest “wherein the selectable separation process is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels located on the base in substantially perpendicular to the electro-mechanical connector for slidably guiding the removable section away from the electro-mechanical connector.

It can be seen in Fig. 2 of Chiang that in order for the keyboard to separate from the keyboard housing the grooves 54 must slide out of channels 44 first. these grooves are perpendicular to the channels. Using the reference of Chiang in combination with Salmon, one skilled in the art can conclude that by adding the grooves 54 instead of sturdy wires 33 of Salmon the latch can lock the keyboard in place so that unauthorized users can not release the keyboard from the keyboard housing.

Applicant argues that none of the cited references alone or in combination reaches or suggests the limitations of claims 9 and 22.

Examiner has addressed claims 9 and 22. Change in Fig. 2 shows where grooves and channels of the removed keyboard and the keyboard housing are located. In order for the user to pull the removable keyboard from the keyboard housing, he/she must slide the groove from the channel. Also the electro-mechanical latch (32) of Salmon can be used to lock the groove in the channel so that unauthorized users cannot remove the keyboard from the keyboard housing. This latch can be placed perpendicular to the grooves of the keyboard so the groove can be locked in place.

The electro-mechanical latch of Salmon is released/opened when a user's finger print is authorized by the motherboard of the computer. When the user's finger print is authorized the latch opens by retracting pin 37.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lu (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0021082) teaches a detachable wireless input device of notebook computer.

Frame (U.S. Patent No. 6,982,702) teaches a portable computer system having latches to hold the computer to the battery.

Merkel (U.S. Patent No. 5,510,953) teaches a removable portable computer keyboard.

Inquiry

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PEGEMAN KARIMI whose telephone number is (571)270-1712. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Pegeman Karimi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2629
October 20, 2008

/Chanh Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2629